WHEREAS; food insecurity among low-income children increases during the summer months as families struggle to make up for lost school meals; and

WHEREAS; summer meal programs, like the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) administered by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's Community Nutrition Team, help ensure our kids receive regular and adequate nutrition all year long by providing nutritious food for kids and families struggling with food insecurity, at no cost; and

WHEREAS; SFSP sponsors can increase participation in summer meals by sourcing local food items, thereby improving the quality and appeal of meals and keeping kids engaged through fun, hands-on activities; and

WHEREAS; the summer months provide a unique opportunity for schools to integrate locally sourced foods and to test new recipes, and regional producers benefit from a reliable outlet for their products during these months; and

WHEREAS; throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen school food service programs play a critical role in ensuring kids in their communities still have access to regular, nutritious meals, even during disrupted school schedules; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that every kid in Wisconsin receives high quality and nutritious meals year-round and that no kid goes hungry this summer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 26 – 30, 2021, as

SUMMER MEALS WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

	e at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 11 th day of June 2021
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secr	retary of State